

Requirements for attendance at Council Meetings



While Council meetings are an opportunity to observe the Council decision making process, they are not the place for members of the public to address Councillors. Council meetings are open to the public, but they are not public meetings.

Attendance requirements

All attendees are required to be seated when in the Public Gallery.

You are requested to turn your mobile phone off or turn it to silent.

You are not to interject, heckle or comment loudly during the proceedings. You are not to engage in disorderly conduct.

You are not permitted to live stream or use an audio recorder, camera, video camera, mobile phone or any other device to make a recording of the meeting without the prior permission of the Council.

You are not permitted to bring signs into the Public Gallery.

Meeting process

Council Meetings are conducted in accordance with the adopted Code of Meeting Practice.

If there is disorderly conduct, the Chairperson may adjourn the meeting. The Chairperson can also expel a member of the public from the meeting for disorderly conduct.

Webcasting and recording

Open Council meetings are webcast. Central Coast Council accepts no liability for any defamatory remarks that are made during a meeting.

By attending a Council Meeting, you consent to the possibility that your image and voice may be broadcast to the public.

CCTV video surveillance is in 24-hour operation on Council premises.

Public Forum

The Public Forum commences at 5pm.

Only pre-registered and approved speakers can address Council in Public Forum. Speakers must be addressing an item on the published agenda.

Speakers are limited to 3 minutes each, but this can be reduced if there are a lot of people registered to speak.

Councillors may ask questions of the speaker but they are under no obligation to answer.

Safety

Council is committed to the safety of members of the public, Councillors and staff.

You are requested to follow the instructions of the Chair, Council staff or the security staff at all times.

